

WCHS Booster Club Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 7pm – Room 126

In attendance: Elaine Arndt; Sharon Crane; Draga Dubick; Paula Goldsmith; Richard Jacobs; Leslie Janis; Sandy Max; Chris Nazarian; Andrew O’Lone; Eric Reicin; Jeanine Resnick; Scott Rivinius; Larry Tanenbaum; Ali Weitzman

Call to Order: – Chris 7:02

Approval of minutes of Last Meeting: Larry moved to approve; Ari seconded; unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Draga reported for Clarice. As of December 15, 2015 the Booster Club has \$107,767.15 and its net income is \$25,340.23.

Athletic Director’s Report: Scott led a discussion/questions regarding the video board. He noted that Brian Barzee has been the contact person. Scott sent him a couple questions. Technically, the board is supposed to be on as much as possible, but should we shut it down after any usage? Brian’s recommendation is to shut it off if we aren’t using it between games. There are still minor issues with board but we don’t have a specialized person to do this. Is it possible for Brian to train someone? Previous Boosters may have thought we’d have someone on site to deal with the issues. Brian has come from CT to fix the board and others have come from DE. Larry wondered if it would actually be fixed. Scott noted that the big problem was the internal computer which has been replaced and we haven’t had any issues since. Brian suggested putting in a new breaker by the board. Scott can look into whether this is possible. The Tuckerman board works better and communicates with the computer in the main office and press box. Larry mentioned the warranty and suggested we just get a new board because it doesn’t work consistently. The school isn’t running it and we only use it for games. It will be shut down until spring, but Chris asked why not use all winter? Draga suggested a sub-meeting to continue the discussion.

Scott and Elaine discussed Community Night. The items are in the school store. We need the 2nd game covered. There are pencils and stickers to give away and we need someone to take pictures. Ari’s daughter Ryann takes photos for the school yearbook and can do it. Scott will get a backdrop for the pictures for January 5.

Spring sports start as early as March 1st (to start tryouts). Not every sport will choose to start that date. Spring Sports night will be March 10th.

There was a discussion of honoring Carolyn Mattingly by perhaps placing a plaque at the stadium? This would cost \$1400-1500. There was a discussion regarding which picture and write-up the family would like. Scott asked for Booster funding for the plaque. Elaine suggested that the family should be informed how much it is and maybe we could do nice pavers instead.

Chris wondered how much was it going to be to rename the stadium after Chuck Stevens (long time teacher and coach of football and baseball)?

Proposal to amend bylaws: Larry noted that there has been a loss of our income stream because Boosters have graduating students. Can we amend the bylaws to allow officers to

serve 2 years after their last child graduates (recent connection to the school)? There is also an inconsistency in the bylaws in that reps are actually just put on Boosters rather than being voted in, and there was a question regarding whether we need to elect directors (team reps). Utility players don't get a vote (i.e., such as for electing officers). One must be a team rep to be a director. Directors vote for officers. Ari suggested that we could create a new category rather than changing the bylaws. Chris noted that other Booster Clubs have continuity. Elaine suggested we have some alumni positions rather than having officers without a student in the school, because we need the current connection in order to get funding for what is currently important. Draga said they would put together some language and send to Directors. Chris said the county wants to take over the Booster Clubs. Leslie mentioned that we need a separate meeting for interested parties. Larry noted that most schools have officers whose kids graduated years ago.

Apparel: Ali noted that the school store has ordered 80 long sleeve t-shirts and we've sold 40 (XS, S, M, L). Another long sleeve blue t-shirt will be coming along.

Gala: – Ali suggested we have an MC. The coaches have been notified. A request has been made to Dr. Benz to auction off parking spaces and we can offer spots for Back to School Night too. The Gala will take place at Bar Louie. A DJ has been donated, and there will be an auction, appetizers and 3 drink tickets per gala ticket purchased. We were all encouraged to buy tickets. Total cost is \$8000 (includes security, parking, etc.) Ali needs us to get the word out, to like Elaine's FB page, to encourage team parents to go to the gala, to join a gala day of committee (sign-up genius – we need 15 volunteers). We also need auction assistants. Each team is being asked to provide 2 ads and 2 auction items (over \$100) to be delivered by Jan 10. Maximum capacity at the event will be about 250. Ari noted that the live auction is hard in an open venue. We are looking for donations of experiences and possibly a car. Anyone who wants to help with ads or choose a shopping center to cover should talk to Ali. Larry noted the issue of having the gala earlier and not being sure who the spring team parents will be. The ad plan/ticket sales for the gala were discussed, as well as the event Facebook site, on which we should go in and click to show we are going. We need to have an ad blitz ready to go and we will be in gear after the holiday. Leslie suggested we have invites/flyers at Community night. Larry noted we only have one more meeting before gala. Larry and Chris suggested we publicize the auction items. Booster reps have been contacted. Ali asked Scott about having experiences donated by parents. Larry suggested that a group should decide what items should be included in the silent and regular auction. Draga suggested that 8th grade parents might want to come and meet coaches, etc. (Draga noted the concern that parents might feel pressure to come in order for kids to make teams).

Stadium Beautification: Draga talked about painting rebounding wall or rolling photography and maybe an award ceremony. Elaine noted that we need to vote on costs for updating (painting parts) of the stadium to honor Chuck Stevens. Alumni were supposed to pay but maybe we should do matching funds.

Concessions: Draga noted that concessions are going fine and we have volunteers, and that they would be doing something special for community night.

Membership: Elaine noted that we have 312 families. Wendy needs rosters for winter sports - Scott can send them to Wendy. Ice hockey and poms are almost at 100%, and we are almost there with crew. We are still ahead of last year. Elaine reminded us that if big teams make ½ membership they get money back for their banquet (swimming, track). We have 5 teams at 100%. Baseball and boys varsity soccer have a good history.

Communications: Elaine noted that the website and newsletter are ready for Winter sports content. We need to send content to Elaine even if there is no Newsletter going out. The website will be more real-time. We received the most clicks on commitment day. It is a good way to keep alumni informed. Elaine needs jpeg pictures with a caption and the donor's name. Elaine reminded us of the "Donate" button on the website, which is good for alumni.

Community Night: Elaine noted that it would be Tuesday, Jan 5 at the games vs. WJ Boys 5:30; Girls 7:15. We need volunteers for 5:15-halftime and 7-halftime to hand out souvenirs and sell \$5 t-shirts.

Discussion of WJ crew incident and involvement in club sports: Scott noted that the WJ crew had a coach accused of sexual misconduct with a student athlete. Crew is not affiliated with the school and thus there is a concern if a similar thing happens at Churchill. The school should be covered regarding official sports. Leslie suggested we talk with Dr. Benz and crew (and hockey); suggesting safeguards to put in place. Scott is going to talk to people about WJ.

Turf project/Pavers: Larry gave an update on the lawsuit. Bethesda Soccer (not part of original partnership) served a notice of deposition on the head of MSI (might be a different lawsuit because ours was Potomac Soccer, Bethesda Lacrosse and us.) Boosters is still in the lawsuit until it gets dropped.

New business: Elaine suggested Boosters sponsoring a pizza night for a basketball game that would give each person a ticket for pizza, and wondered if Scott had a good game to suggest. We could do it for Senior night but that wouldn't get people in early in the season. Scott suggested that we aim for a double header. By consensus we agreed to spend up to \$200 on pizza for a game Scott recommends.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Crane, Secretary